

# COMPREHENSIVE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2017

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Harvey Wheeler meeting room. CSEC members present were Brad Hubbard-Nelson (chair), Bill Lehr (clerk), Annie Moore, and Alan Whitney. Also present were Alice Kaufman and Concord residents Doug Sharpe and Sam Lines, and interns Claudia Baptista and Clayton Hafer. Gilda Gussin arrived at 8:11pm so prior to that a quorum was lacking and so the meeting was unofficial. The official meeting convened at 8:11pm.

See Slides (attachment #1, includes Agenda as first slide).

### **1. Welcome visitors and meeting logistics**

- Due to the lack of a quorum, the discussion was informal until Gilda Gussin arrived and the official meeting began at 8:11pm.

### **2. Approval of minutes from recent meetings**

- The June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as amended were approved unanimously.
- Next meeting will be scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup>, assuming a quorum can be assembled. Bill Lehr will try to Skype into the meeting.

### **3. Chair report, announcements:**

- Two new CSEC members (Doug Sharpe and Sam Lines) have been approved by the Town Manager and Select Board.

### **4. Update from MassCEC summer interns**

- Claudia Baptista (senior UMass Amherst, majoring in civil engineering) has been working on the website, communications, and rebate forms. Also, home heating and hot water assessments. She has created spreadsheet and started process of contacting town residents and met with Brad to discuss development of Heat Pump analysis tool.
- Clayton Hafer (junior Holy Cross, majoring in economics and environmental studies) has been working on the website, communications, the electric lawnmower swap and Beede Center solar projects, with Jill Appel supervising the latter two projects.

### **5. Cooler Concord Fair Follow-up**

- Rebate programs, website, and newsletter have all been launched.
- Newsletter: Julie Kleyn, Annie Moore, and Gilda Gusin worked together to produce first newsletter which was mailed to 535 recipients on July 11. Of those, 236 opened

the newsletter and 67 clicked through to sites. Plan is for follow-up newsletter on August 1.

- Website: Brad Hubbard-Nelson, Janet Miller, and Doug Sharpe worked together to launch the website. Town branding was added to website. Still some content to add and committee members need to review and comment. Still number of areas where fixes are needed, including enabling mobile access.
- Rebates: Standard rebate forms and instructions finalized and loaded onto website.
- School awards from Cooler Concord Fair were awarded. Half of the money is to be spent on a sustainability project and half will be under control of the PTGs. Schools will communicate with Gilda and should resolve what projects money will be directed toward by November 1, 2017.

## **6. CMLP News and Update from Light Board Planning Meeting**

- Green communities lighting upgrades (see Attachment #2) to be completed by February 2018. Sawyer Trust Fund remaining money (\$82,605) to be provided to complete the Thoreau, Alcott and Ripley projects. CMLP lighting upgrade completed and WWTP substantially completed. Main and Fowler library projects are in process. Schools are moving forward.
- Renewables strategy memo: Chris Roy prepared CMLP memorandum (forwarded, see Attachment #3) for how they plan to meet Town Meeting Article 51 commitment to switch to renewables. Chris Roy memo suggested plan for purchasing RECs for all of Town's power by 2020, requiring about 2.5c/kwh cost impact, or about \$10/month/subscriber on average. Ultimately plan to accomplish this over 2-5 year duration. This is still less than what Investor-owned utilities pay. This was approved by Light Board at last CMLP meeting. Reason this addressed by RECS is Purchase Power Agreements are renegotiated every 5 years so need to schedule plan over time.

## **7. Municipal solar projects (Beede center and others)**

- Jill Appel with help from Clayton Hafer is working on Beede Center project.
- Put on hold currently because of load issues. Adding a lot more solar threatens to take one of the Town's circuits down to zero load that would force it to go offline. No way to share Concord power to wider grid currently so need to consume in Concord.
- Could address with storage projects that CSEC may investigate.
- Two options for Beede: Solar PV for up to 350kw and solar thermal on roof top.
- Work has not advanced much since last meeting because folks are on vacation.

## **8. Quiet Communities mower swap event (Clayton/Jill)**

- September 23 is scheduled date for event. Participants should reserve by August 6 for 30% discount to qualify. Push this message with another newsletter.
- Hoping for 100 to come.
- In conjunction with Home Depot. Discount on lawnmower ~30% and \$100 more rebate incentive.

## **9. Public comments**

N/A

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Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Lehr, CSEC clerk

### **List of Attachments**

- 1) CSEC 170718 slides.pdf
- 2) Green Communities Update CSEC071717.docx
- 3) CMLP Memo REC 20170621.pdf